

SEAWEED AND SEWAGE.

Scientists Study Peculiar Conditions of Belfast and Dublin Harbors.

An interesting paper read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and published in the last number of the "Proceedings" of that learned body, deserves the attention of sanitarians. The paper is entitled "The Seaweed Ulva Latissima, and Its Relation to the Pollution of Sea Water by Sewage." The authors are Prof. Lettis and Mr. J. Hawthorne, of Queen's college, Belfast. It appears that for some years the upper reaches of Belfast Lough have been troubled by a serious nuisance, arising from the loading of the air at low tide with the vapor known as sulphuretted hydrogen gas. This is the gas familiar to every schoolboy who has dabbled in chemistry as "the prince of stinks." When I add that it is this gas to which one species of the eggs Mr. Dan Leno describes, I believe, as "not altogether recent," owes its peculiar odor, I need not further dilate on the noxious nature of the Belfast low-tide nuisance. In the north of Dublin harbor the same peculiarity exists. Naturally, the people set down the odor as due to the sewage, pure and simple, but Prof. Lettis and his colleague assure us that it is intimately connected with the growth of the ulva, a green seaweed with broad fronds, familiar to most people under the name of the "sea lettuce." Their researches have been of a highly complete character. In the first place, they show that when the seaweed decays it is attacked by certain species of microbes, whose action is associated with the production of sulphuretted hydrogen gas. But the main point which concerns the public health and the question of sewage disposal in the sea is the fact that the "sea lettuce" appears to be a seaweed of decidedly low and vulgar tastes. In place of delighting in the fresh, clear sea water, it seems to prefer water to which sewage has had access, so that wherever the ulva occurs, there our authors state we may be certain the water is polluted.

The English Gypsies.

Gypsies in England are, it is stated, desirous of special representation at the coronation. They claim that the modern van-dweller, by good behavior and honesty, has lived down the evil reputation of former days.

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JUST THIS SIDE OF SUCCESS.

Perseverance Not as Prevalent a Trait as It Should Be.

One of the most pathetic sights is to see a man giving up the struggle to lie down when just in sight of success. Of course, many people are situated or hindered in the race through no fault of their own, but the vast majority of those who cease to climb and give up, do so from some weakness or defect. Many of them lack continuity of purpose or persistence; others lack courage or determination, writes O. S. Marden, in Success.

It is really pitiable to see young men and women in the prime of life becoming discouraged and ceasing to advance. Many of these unfortunate would attain at least something of real success by merely sticking to their tasks, but there is no hope whatever for the man who gives up—the one who loses heart.

In thousands of American homes—lying, perhaps, in the attic, woodshed, or workshop—are scores of ingenious, labor-saving devices, or inventions, which, if carried a step further and patented would not only give those who originated them a competence for life, but would also enrich the civilization of the world. But the thinkers get discouraged or tired, or lack persistence, energy, or push; and so the half-developed machinery, the embryo invention, has never come to light, and the time spent upon it has been lost, perhaps worse than lost, because the lesson of perseverance was not sufficiently learned.

When you speak of catching the big ones, think of fish, and not of catchings; women of husbands.

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UNIQUE BURGLAR ALARM.

Flashlight Photography for Exposing Criminals at Their nefarious Work.

"I was reading in one of the recent magazines an interesting article on photography and its usefulness in the courts," said an observant citizen to a New Orleans Times-Democrat reporter, "and I notice that two of the banks in New York have rigged up an apparatus that will take the safe-blower's picture in a jiffy. Now, this is a great scheme. The very instant the safe door is tampered with a fuse flashes up and the picture of the safe-blower is left on the plate and he never knows how it happens. Only two banks, according to reports, have adopted the plan, but no doubt it will spread, and after awhile will come into general use as a thief catcher. It is simply the evolution of the roguish gallery. But think of the limitless possibilities of photography along this line. After awhile the thief cannot enter any place without running into a flashlight and a plate, and he may not leave without leaving his likeness behind him. If he crawls into a window a fuse may flash up and leave his picture on the floor. If he forces a back door open a light may flare up in his face, and the police will call around next day and find out just who he is by looking at the plate in the door. If he raps the fellow over the head with a bludgeon on the highway he may strike a fuse, the fire will flare up, and the result will be his immediate identification. In short, the world may in time become so filled with photographing apparatus that the thief will not stand much show, unless he is willing to take the chances of being caught, because of the fact that the picture he leaves behind will not only identify him, but will tell the story of how he committed the act. It may be offered in proof to convict him. But there is another thing in connection with the possibilities of photography. Pictures may tell tales on folks more honest than thieves, for they may be used to tell the little things which are best untold, and so the science, while affording protection against miscreants, may also become a miserable telltale."

DUKE'S DUMMY LIBRARY.

Books That Are Part of the Wall of His Sitting Room.

The duke of Devonshire possesses one of the most remarkable libraries in the country, and that at Chatsworth is reckoned to be one of the finest in the world. Some of the works are very valuable volumes, and bound in the most magnificent style, being even embellished with precious stones; and, to obviate the necessity for the words "Do not touch," they are protected by screens made of wire. But the duke's dummy library causes the most interest. All round his sitting-room may be seen books with the most amusing titles. The visitor who is not acquainted with the house often goes to take one and finds that they are part of the wall, and pure shams. Three or four centuries ago these dummy libraries were very common, but that of Chatsworth was always the best, and it is still in a perfect condition.

The rows of books stand out in the most realistic way, and they are naturally productive of much mirth when they are seen for the first time. In one of the rooms there hangs on the door what appears at first sight a splendid violin and bow, and this is shown to tourists who are allowed to inspect the house.

This is also a dummy instrument, and is really part of the house decoration—London Tit-Bits.

The President and His Cabinet.

President Roosevelt is 23 years younger than Secretary Hitchcock, the senior member of the cabinet, and 13 years younger than Secretary Root, its junior member. Five cabinet members are at least 20 years the senior of the president. Secretary Hitchcock is one month older than Secretary Wilson, both of whom were born in 1835, and are, therefore, 66 years old. Secretary Jage is 65. Secretary Long and Secretary Hay were born within 20 days of each other, the latter on October 8, 1838, and the former on October 28, 1838. Postmaster General Smith is 59, and Secretary Root is 56 years old. President Roosevelt was 43 October 27, 1901.

Biased.

Don't start an argument with a biased man, and it is safe to assume that 99 out of every 100 men are biased.—Acheson Globe.

Few Women Insured.

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TOO MUCH FOR HENRY.

Young Woman Lost Both Lover and Pet Pug.

She is young and rather good looking and is employed in a department store. One morning last week she came to the store an hour late and asked to be excused for the day. "Anything the matter?" asked the manager. "Dear me, yes. I was up until two o'clock this morning with my pug dog. The poor thing had spasms and suffered terribly."

"That's too bad," remarked the manager, coldly, as she hurried away to return to the patient. The men in the store were a cruel, unsympathetic lot, says the Milwaukee Sentinel. If the dog had been anything but a pug they might have felt sorry for the young woman. As it was they were simply amused over her emotion—all except a certain Henry, and he was intensely annoyed.

Henry was a decent young man who was employed in the office and who had been showing marked attention to the young woman.

The day after she had obtained leave of absence she came in, silent and red-eyed. They knew something had happened, and they suspected the worst. Nevertheless, they grieved behind her back and exchanged winks until Henry was in a fighting mood. Simply because a young woman has her peculiarities is no reason why men should act like brutes. Finally one of the men capriciously opened a conversation:

"How is the dog this morning?" "He's—he's dead," and her lower lip began to tremble.

"When did he die?" "Last evening."

She blotted her eyes with a rolled-up handkerchief and swallowed a sob. "I wouldn't grieve so much if I were you," said the hard-hearted man. "You have Henry left."

This was too much. She unfolded her handkerchief and covered her face.

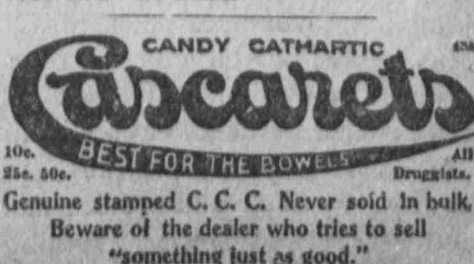
"I don't care if you want to make fun," she gasped. "I'd rather it would have been Henry—or anyone—than my poor dear."

Henry had endured it up to that point. Then he said, sullenly, that it was "a good thing," and from that moment they became as strangers to each other.

Women Who Wear Well.

It is astonishing how great a change a few years of married life will make in the appearance and disposition of many women. The freshness, the charm, the brilliance vanish like the bloom from a peach which is rudely handled. The matron is only a dim shadow, a faint echo from the charming maiden. There are two reasons for this change, ignorance and neglect. Few young women appreciate the shock to the system through the change which comes with marriage. Many neglect to deal with the unpleasant drains which are often consequent on marriage and motherhood, not understanding that this secret drain is robbing the cheek of its freshness and the form of its fairness. As surely as the general health suffers when there is derangement of the health of the delicate womanly organs, so surely when these organs are established in health the face and form at once witness to the fact in renewed comeliness. Half a million women and more have found health and happiness in the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It makes weak women strong and sick women well.

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WOMEN INVENTORS.

New Games and Forms of Entertainment an Appropriate Field.

One of the most fruitful sources of securing a good income is in inventing games and forms of entertainment for private parties, societies, and receptions. The extraordinary demand for something new in the line of entertaining is evidenced by the number of new games and tricks put on the market every year. These multiply rapidly, but most of them, being merely variations of old games, attract little more than passing notice. But when a really new and original game, trick, or form of entertainment is invented, the public shows its appreciation by adopting it immediately as the prevailing fad. There are so very few original inventions of this nature that it is safe to say that anyone who has the genius to discover one will reap financial reward sufficient to support her for the rest of her life.

These new forms of amusement need not necessarily be elaborate and expensive in character. Sometimes the very simple ones attract the most attention and actually earn more money for their owners. Women in particular are finding this field an attractive one for testing their inventive abilities. Many who go into it find in a little while that they are unfitted for it. They have great adaptive powers, but not inventive faculties. The former will hardly win renown and financial returns in proportion to the amount of work put in the efforts.

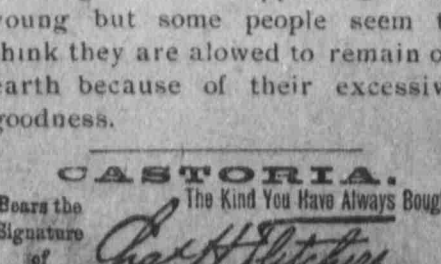
The patent office at Washington is besieged by applicants for inventions that are made for the purpose of amusing and entertaining, and the list that is annually rejected because they infringe upon the rights of others is very great. Nevertheless, women have been very successful in the last two years in this direction, and according to statistics given they have equalled the men both in the number and popularity of their inventions to amuse. Last year fully a score of such patents were taken out by women who must have made comfortable incomes from the sales of the articles. One successful trick, game, or puzzle should in the ordinary course of events make a tidy income for a woman for several years.—Scientific American.

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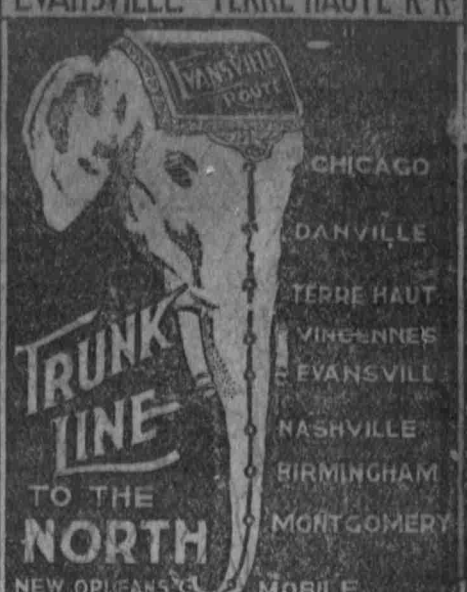
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